--- “Series of 1887” - 3 Cigars - BLACK ---

--- recess printed on horizontal mesh wove – 280 x 12 mm - 4 mm blue controls ---

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The catalogue lists the recess printed black three cigar “Series of 1887” strips as follows:

RG-373 - 3 cigars, black, perf 12, on horizontal mesh wove - 4 mm blue controls
RG-374 - 3 cigars, black, *coarse roulette*, on horizontal mesh wove - 4 mm blue controls

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4th BABN Contract (1886-1892) John McKay records 31,676 *recess printed* by hand press copies of “3 Black Cigars” as delivered.

5th BABN Contract (1892-1897) John McKay records 30,000 *recess printed* by hand press and 250,324 *recess printed* by rotary press copies of “3 Black Cigars” as delivered.

5th ABN Supplement (1897-1898) John McKay records 14,400 *recess printed* by rotary press copies of “3 Black Cigars” as delivered.

These had been previously printed and had remained in stock when BABN lost the printing contract to ABN in 1897. By mutual agreement they were made available to the Department while ABN worked ‘up-to-speed’ with the die preparation and the printing of the “Series of 1897”.

4th BABN Contract	31,676 recess printed by hand press	**000001** to **031676**
5th BABN Contract	30,000 recess printed by hand press	**031677** to **061676**
5th BABN Contract	250,324 recess printed by rotary press	**061677** to **312000**
5th BABN Supplement	14,400 recess printed by rotary press	**312001** to **326400**
	326,400	

I have separated the *recess printed* hand press from the rotary press strips simply because I feel that the *rotary press* strips should measure slightly longer than the *hand press* strips.

--- *recess printed* black plate proof - 280 x 12 mm - scanned at 60% scale ---

★**RG-373/374 PP** - 3 cigars, black, recess printed plate proof on heavy horizontal mesh wove

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--- RG-373 - perf 12 - 280 x 12 mm - scanned at 60% scale ---

The collection ***does not contain*** a control-numbered copy of the perforated strip. The copy in the listing is from the collection of Fritz Angst and comes from the initial printing under the **4th BABN Contract** (1886-1892). My collection contains only the below illustrated *control-free* copy.

★**RG-373n** - 3 cigars, black, perforated 12, *recess printed* by hand press on horizontal mesh wove, without control numbering

From the collection of Fritz Angst

002999 ○	RG-373	3 cigars, perf 12, recess printed by hand press on horizontal mesh wove

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--- “Series of 1887” - 3 Cigars - BLACK - 5th BABN Contract (1892-1897) ---

--- recess printed on horizontal mesh wove - 4 mm blue controls ---

--- RG-374 - *coarse roulette* - 280 x 12 mm - scanned at 60% scale ---

Judging by the control numbers, these *coarse roulette* three cigar copies of **RG-374** come from the **5th BABN Contract** (1892-1897).

★**RG-374 CP** - 3 cigars, black, coarse roulette, on horizontal mesh wove, with 4 mm. control **231003**, stamped **CANCELLED** in 3 mm. Gothic letters

★**RG-374** - 3 cigars, black, coarse roulette, on horizontal mesh wove, with 4 mm. control **231010**

033654	RG-374	3 cigars, black, coarse roulette, on horizontal mesh wove
033655	RG-374	3 cigars, black, coarse roulette, on horizontal mesh wove
033669	RG-374 CP	3 cigars, black, coarse roulette, on horizontal mesh wove
231003★	RG-374 CP	3 cigars, black, coarse roulette, on horizontal mesh wove
231010★	RG-374	3 cigars, black, coarse roulette, on horizontal mesh wove

and coming from the **5th BABN Supplement** (1897-1898)

313279-80★	RG-374	3 cigars, black, coarse roulette, on horizontal mesh wove

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File path is [c:\ CR - STAMPS \ RG_STAMPS \ 1887 \ 3 cigars - black],
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October 15th 2013 - JBH